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April 18, 2000

To: County and District Superintendents
Golden State Examination Coordinators
Attn: Principals of Schools with Grades 7-12
Directors of Curriculum
Directors of Testing
Public Information Officers

From: K. Gwen Stephens, Director
Standards and Assessment Division

Subject: **2001 Golden State Examination (GSE) Administration Schedule**

The schedule for the 2001 test administration of the Golden State Examinations is enclosed to assist you in planning your district and school calendars. The winter 2001 testing schedule includes five Golden State Examinations:

- Economics
- Government/Civics
- High School Mathematics
- Reading/Literature
- Written Composition

The spring 2001 testing schedule includes ten Golden State Examinations:

- First-year Algebra
- Geometry
- Economics
- Government/Civics
- U.S. History
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Second-year Coordinated Science
- Physics
- Spanish Language

Major efforts have been made this year to ensure that the Golden State Examinations, except for Spanish language, are aligned to content standards approved by the State Board of Education. Each GSE has been reviewed and modified, as necessary, to reflect the adopted standards. Since the State Board has not adopted standards for foreign language at this time, the Spanish language examination is aligned to the *National Standards for Foreign Language Instruction*.

The Golden State Examinations in reading/literature, written composition, and high school mathematics will be given only during the winter administration. The examinations in reading/literature and written composition may be taken by students in

grade eleven or twelve. The high school mathematics examination may be taken by students who have completed three years of high school mathematics, covering the content included in the standards adopted by the State Board of Education for algebra I, geometry, algebra II, and probability and statistics.

The Spanish language examination may be taken by students completing their second year of Spanish and by native speakers of Spanish who have received no more than two years of formal instruction in Spanish language.

In all cases, students are eligible to take each GSE only one time.

Testing windows have been designated for those districts that cannot test on the established winter and spring testing dates due to scheduling conflicts. The testing windows are:

- Winter 2001: January 8 – January 31
- Spring 2001: May 1 – May 31

Districts may allow schools to choose different testing dates from within the window; however, all students within a school must be tested on the same date. When more than one GSE is scheduled on the same day, it is recommended that the tests be administered at different times to increase access for students.

Districts that wish to test before or after the testing window dates will need prior approval. The request form for approval will be sent with the GSE registration materials.

Questions about the testing schedule for 2001 should be directed to Monica Abeyta at the Sacramento County Office of Education, (916) 228-2662. Other questions about the Golden State Examination program should be directed to the Standards and Assessment Division of the California Department of Education at (916) 657-3011 (telephone); (916) 657-4964 (fax); or star@cde.ca.gov (e-mail).

Your continuing support of this important program to recognize outstanding student achievement is greatly appreciated.

KGS:vp

Enclosure

California Department of Education
Standards and Assessment Division

Golden State Examination Testing Dates

Winter 2001

Economics	
Part I	Tuesday, January 9
Part II	Wednesday, January 10
Government/Civics	
Part I	Tuesday, January 9
Part II	Wednesday, January 10
High School Mathematics	
Part I	Tuesday, January 9
Part II	Wednesday, January 10
Reading/Literature	
Part I	Thursday, January 11
Part II	Friday, January 12
Written Composition	
Part I	Wednesday, January 17
Part II	Thursday, January 18

Spring 2001

First-year Algebra	
Part I	Tuesday, May 22
Part II	Wednesday, May 23
Geometry	
Part I	Tuesday, May 22
Part II	Wednesday, May 23
Economics	
Part I	Tuesday, May 22
Part II	Wednesday, May 23
Government/Civics	
Part I	Tuesday, May 22
Part II	Wednesday, May 23
U.S. History	
Part I	Tuesday, May 22
Part II	Wednesday, May 23
Biology	
Part I	Thursday, May 24
Part II	Friday, May 25
Chemistry	
Part I	Thursday, May 24
Part II	Friday, May 25
Second-year Coordinated Science	
Part I	Thursday, May 24
Part II	Friday, May 25
Physics	
Part I	Thursday, May 24
Part II	Friday, May 25
Second-year Spanish Language	
Part I	Wednesday, May 30
Part II	Thursday, May 31